

New records of biting midges of the genus *Culicoides* Latreille (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) in Argentina

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Nuevos registros de polvorines del género *Culicoides* Latreille (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) en Argentina

RESUMEN. Se brinda un nuevo registro en Argentina de una especie del género *Culicoides* Latreille, *C. pifanoi* Ortiz, y también se incluyen los siguientes nuevos registros en la provincia de Misiones de *C. chacoensis* Spinelli & Wirth, *C. plaumanni* Spinelli y *C. willinki* Spinelli & Veggiani Aybar. El número de especies registradas formalmente y reconocidas para Argentina asciende actualmente a 44.

PALABRAS CLAVE. Argentina. Ceratopogonidae. Misiones. Nuevas citas. Polvorines.

ABSTRACT. A new record of a species of the genus *Culicoides* in Argentina, *C. pifanoi* Ortiz is presented, in addition to the following new records in Misiones province of *C. chacoensis* Spinelli & Wirth, *C. plaumanni* Spinelli and *C. willinki* Spinelli & Veggiani Aybar. The number of species formally recorded and properly recognized in Argentina to date reaches 44.

KEYWORDS. Argentina. Biting midges. Ceratopogonidae. Misiones. New records.

Borkent and Spinelli (2007) in their catalogue of the Neotropical species of biting midges (Ceratopogonidae) recorded 41 species of the genus *Culicoides* Latreille from Argentina. Since this publication, three species were incorporated to the Argentinean fauna due to a couple of papers dealing with taxonomic revisions and new citations (Felippe-Bauer et al., 2009; Spinelli et al., 2013). On the other hand, *Culicoides bachmanni* Spinelli was recognized as a junior synonym of *Culicoides horticola* Lutz (Felippe-Bauer & Spinelli, 2009).

The purpose of this note is to give the corologic information arisen during a recent survey of biting midges in the province of Misiones, in the framework of the work of the senior author. During the fieldwork, different species were collected, one of them not

previously detected in the country, as well as three others that represent new records of Misiones.

For each registered species, the abbreviated synonymy is presented: the original description and citations that include records in Argentina followed by its updated distribution. The studied specimens are slide-mounted in Canada balsam, and deposited in the collection of the División Entomología, Museo de La Plata (MLPA) and in the collection of the Centro de Investigaciones Entomológicas, Posadas (CIEP), as noted.

***Culicoides chacoensis* Spinelli & Wirth**

Culicoides chacoensis Spinelli & Wirth, 1984: 174 (male, female; Argentina); Spinelli & Ronderos, 1991: 89 (record for Corrientes); Ronderos & Spinelli, 2002: 93

(records for Córdoba, Río Negro and Chubut); Muzón et al., 2005: 62 (records for Río Negro); Spinelli et al., 2005: 140, 144 (in key, wing photo); Spinelli et al., 2010: 130 (record for Chile).

Types. Holotype female, Argentina, Salta, Pocitos (MLPA, examined).

Distribution. Bolivia, Paraguay, Central Chile, Argentina (Salta: type locality; río Juramento y ruta nacional 9. Córdoba: La Serranita; Corrientes: Destacamento de Prefectura Paniagua, 10 km S Monte Caseros. Río Negro: Meseta del Somuncura, Estancia El Rincón, vertiente arroyo Valcheta, 620 m, 40° 59' 24,1" S; 66° 40' 35,7" W; Chipauquil, vertiente arroyo Valcheta, 40° 58' 25" S; 66° 39' 14,7" W, 630 m. Chubut: Sierra Cuadrada, Estancia Don Eduardo), Uruguay.

New record. Argentina, Misiones, Departamento Cainguás, Municipio Campo Grande, 27° 12' 28" S; 54° 58' 48" W, I-2015, M. Ayala, 1 female (MLPA).

***Culicoides plaumanni* Spinelli**

Culicoides plaumanni Spinelli in Spinelli et al., 1993: 69 (female; Argentina); Spinelli et al., 2005: 139, 143 (in key, wing photo).

Types. Holotype female, Argentina, Chaco, Parque Nacional El Chaco (MLPA, examined).

Distribution. Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil (Amazonas), Argentina (Chaco: type locality).

New records. Argentina, Misiones, Posadas, 27° 26' 11" S; 55° 53' 47.4" W, III-2013, M. Ayala, 3 females (CIEP); same data except VII-2013, 1 female, 1 male (CIEP); X-2013, 2 females (CIEP); XII-2013, 3 females (CIEP); Misiones, Departamento Cainguás, Municipio Campo Grande, 27° 12' 28" S; 54° 58' 48" W, V-2015, M. Ayala, 2 females (MLPA).

***Culicoides willinki* Spinelli & Veggiani Aybar**

Culicoides willinki Spinelli & Veggiani Aybar, in Spinelli et al., 2013: 587 (male, female; Argentina).

Types. Holotype female, Argentina, Tucumán, Monteros, Reserva provincial La Florida. HT M (IFML, examined).

Distribution. Argentina (Tucumán: type locality).

New records. Misiones, Departamento Cainguás, Municipio Campo Grande, 27° 12' 28" S; 54° 58' 48" W, III-2015, M. Ayala, 2 females (CIEP); same data except IV-2015, 8 females (6 in CIEP, 2 in MLPA).

***Culicoides pifanoi* Ortiz**

Culicoides pifanoi Ortiz, 1951: 588 (male, female; Venezuela); Spinelli et al., 2005: 139, 143, 149 (in key, wing photo; Paraguay).

Culicoides tricoloratus Wirth and Blanton, 1953: 233 (male, female; Panamá).

Types. Holotype female, Venezuela, Maracay, San Felipe (Instituto Nacional de Higiene, Caracas, Venezuela).

Distribution. Belize to Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Trinidad, Brazil (Para, Bahia, and Rio de Janeiro),

Paraguay.

New record. Argentina, Misiones, Departamento Cainguás, Municipio Campo Grande, 27° 12' 28" S; 54° 58' 48" W, V-2015, M. Ayala, 1 female (MLPA).

Remarks. This is the first record of the species in Argentina.

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